

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T AMMAN 3941

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: GGOVN JO, IT, VT, YO, XF  
SUBJECT: VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA, ITALY, THE VATICAN

REF AMMAN 3910 (NOTAL)  
SUMMARY: HUSSEIN'S VISIT TO SOUTHERN EUROPE  
WENT WELL, BUT WAS UNEXCEPTIONABLE. A NEW  
OPENING TO YUGOSLAVIA, A RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF  
HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS IN ITALY AND A  
RE-ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE POPE WERE THE MAJOR RESULTS.  
ESPECIALLY WITH YUGOSLAVIA, HUSSEIN HOPES TO FOLLOW UP.  
END SUMMARY

1. HUSSEIN PASSED ON FOLLOWING POINTS ON HIS RECENT  
VISIT TO ABOVE AREAS:

2. YUGOSLAVIA - TITO WAS IN GOOD HEALTH, SMOKING  
AND DRINKING AND APPARENTLY ENJOYING HIMSELF.  
(KING SAID EARLIER HE EXPECTS RETURN VISIT FROM  
TITO HERE EARLY NEXT MONTH, JUNE 1978.) TALKS  
WITH TITO CENTERED ON THREE SUBJECTS --FUTURE OF  
YUGOSLAVIA AFTER HE DIES, NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT,  
AND MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM.

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3. TITO DESCRIBED FOR KING HIS RECENT TALKS WITH  
PRESIDENT CARTER AND BREZHNEV. KING GOT IMPRESSION  
TITO WAS SATISFIED THAT YUGOSLAVIA WOULD SURVIVE  
HIS PASSING WITHOUT BECOMING A COCKPIT OF GREAT  
POWER CONFLICT. KING THOUGHT TITO HAD SLID  
A BIT CLOSER TO SOVIETS OF LATE, WITH SHARPENING

YUGOSLAV TRADE AND ECONOMIC DIFFERENCES WITH EEC. KING ALSO WAS TOLD YUGOSLAVS WERE MANUFACTURING TANKS AS WELL AS SA-7 AND SA-6 SAMs. TITO SAID SOME MIDDLE EAST STATES WERE TESTING YUGOSLAV-BUILT TANKS (KING SAID THEY WERE A LATE-SOVIET MODEL). HUSSEIN TOLD TITO HE WAS WELCOME TO TRY JORDAN AS A TESTING GROUND. JORDAN WILL SEND AN AIR FORCE DELEGATION TO YUGOSLAVIA TO LOOK FURTHER AT WHAT THE YUGOSLAVS ARE MANUFACTURING IN THE MILITARY HARDWARE AREA.

4. ON THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, TITO FEELS THAT IT HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY AND THAT THE CREATION OF COMMITTEE OF THE NAM TO RESOLVE BORDER ISSUES SHOULD HELP INHIBIT SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENING IN AREAS SUCH AS THE HORN IN THE FUTURE. HUSSEIN THOUGHT TITO WAS CLEARLY SEEKING SOME WAY TO KEEP SOVIET INTERFERENCE IN THIRD WORLD AT BAY. TITO UNHAPPY ALSO WITH SEVERAL DIVISIVE TENDENCIES AMONG NON-ALIGNED. KING CITED BRANDT'S EFFORTS AMONG THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL, ALI BHUTTO OF PAKISTAN'S THIRD-WORLD MOVEMENT AND CASTRO'S IDEAS OF DIVIDING THE NON-ALIGNED INTO PROGRESSIVE AND REGRESSIVE CAMPS. KING THOUGHT COUP IN KABUL A DANGEROUS BLOW AND THAT NO ONE COULD GET TOGETHER THESE DAYS TO MEET SUCH PROBLEMS. IT WOULD PROBABLY MEAN CANCELLATION OF NAM  
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MEETING IN KABUL AND THAT IF CASTRO KEPT UP WITH HIS LINE, FEW THIRD-WORLD STATES WOULD ATTEND A LATER MEETING IN HAVANA.

5. ON THE MIDDLE EAST KING SAID THAT HE AND TITO FOUND A WIDE CONVERGENCE OF VIEWS. HE DID NOT MENTION, AS SHARAF HAD, TITO'S PREFERENCES FOR THE PLO.

6. KING CONCLUDED THAT VISIT OPENED A NEW VISTA FOR JORDAN ON BILATERAL BASIS AND THAT HE HOPED TO PURSUE THIS FURTHER. NEVER FAR FROM JORDANIAN HEARTS IS NOTION OF WHAT OTHERS CAN DO TO HELP IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT. KING SAID THAT YUGOSLAVS OFFERED SOME "SLOVENIAN" TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND JORDANIANS GLADLY ACCEPTED UNTIL THEY HEARD THEY WOULD FOOT THE BILL OR A LARGE PART OF IT AND SINCE HAVE MOVED THE IDEA TOWARD THE BACK BURNER.

7. IN ITALY KING WAS PLEASED AT HIS RECEPTION. HE SAID THAT ITALIANS WERE HEAVILY PREOCCUPIED WITH MORO AFFAIR AND THAT HE HAD TAKEN TIME OUT

TO SPEAK WITH MRS. MORO BY TELEPHONE. HE GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT MORO HAD "CRACKED" IN HIS LAST LETTERS AND THAT ITALIANS BELIEVED THE ABDUCTORS HAD RECEIVED FOREIGN TRAINING EITHER IN CZECHOSLAVAKIA OR WITH THE PALESTINIANS IN BEIRUT. HE HAD THANKED THE ITALIANS FOR THEIR HELP IN THE EEC ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT. THE ITALWANS SAID THEY WERE INTERESTED IN MAKING JORDAN FOR THEMSELVES A WINDOW OR DOOR INTO THE ARAB WORLD. KING SAID SPIRIT OF MEETING

AND RECEPTION WAS GOOD. PREVIOUSLY THERE HAS BEEN SOME BAD BLOOD OVER REFUSAL SOME YEARS AGO BY A PREVIOUS ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO RECEIVE HIM. BOTH  
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LEONE AND ANDREOTTI PARTICIPATED IN HIS TALKS.

8. AT THE VATICAN, HUSSEIN SAID THAT PRINCIPAL FOCUS OF ATTENTION WAS ON THE MIDDLE EAST. POPE OADE CLEAR THAT HE SUPPORTED THE UN INITIATIVES AND RESOLUTIONS ON THE AREA IN SPITE OF HIS NON-MEMBERSHIP IN THAT BODY. KING ALSO SAID MEETING WAS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTH LEADERS TO REAFFIRM MUTUAL TOLERANCE AND RESPECT BETWEEN CHRISTIANS AND MOSLEMS (A SUBJECT PARTICULARLY AND PERSONALLY IMPORTANT TO HUSSEIN WHOSE RELATIONS WITH AND PRIDE IN THE CHRISTIANS OF JORDAN IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF HIS OWN PERSONAL OUTLOOK). KING SAID THERE WAS A DISCUSSION OF JERUSALEM, MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT EFFORTS AND THE U.S. ROLE. HE HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN SEEING THE POPE AGAIN AND SEEMED PERSONALLY PLEASED WITH THE VISIT ARRANGEMENTS. ALWAYS THE AVIATOR, HE REMARKED ESPECIALLY ON THE AFTERNOON HELICOPTER FLIGHT OVER ROME TO THE AIRPORT.

9. COMMENT: THERE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN NO REAL SURPRISES ON THE TRIP, BUT NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR JORDAN TO USE EFFECTIVELY KING'S PERSONAL DIPLOMACY TO WIN FRIENDS AND BUILD RELATIONSHIPS. KING SEEMED PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH HIS NEW OPENING TO YUGOSLAVIA, A STATE WHICH UP UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO WOULD CERTAINLY NOT HAVE DEALT WITH HIM ON ANY BASIS IN THE AFTERMATH OF HIS 1970-1971 WAR AGAINST THE PLO IN JORDAN.  
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